

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 7639

星期四

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JUNE 9TH, 1882.

五

號九月六英港香

[PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.]

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

June 8, VLADIVOSTOK, Russian str., 678, P. Novosoff, Singapore 3rd May, Rice.

—AU YAN.

June 8, HONGKONG, British steamer, 953, J. B. Fyver Chinchang 4th June, Rice.

—SIMENSEN & CO.

June 8, KALAKA-HIND, British str., 1,440, J. C. Balat, Bintan 20th May, Pe-

—Lang 1st June, Singapore 3rd June, Mails

and General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

June 8, ARABIA, British str., 366, Goddard, Taiwan 30th May, Tashui 2nd June, Amoy 6th, and Swan 7th, General.

DOUGLAS LA PRAIK & CO.

CHINAMANES.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE.

JUNE 8TH.

Fyer, Daniel str., for Saigon.

Ganges, British str., for Foochow.

Loister, for Shanghai.

DEPARTURES.

June 7, ACHILLES, British steamer, for Amoy.

June 8, HAINAN, British str., for Hainan.

June 8, HONGKONG, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Hongkong, str., from Chinkiang—5 Chi-

neas.

Per Vladivostok, str., from Singapore—166 Chinese.

Per Akers-Hind, str., from Hongkong—G. B.

Voyage, W. K. Miles, Messrs. J. B. Mustard,

Ozone and Husies. From Bombay—Mr. A.

Dahaboy. From Penang—Mr. Poo-Yee-Sen and

servant, and 73 Chinese. From Swatow—Mr.

E. L. Siu, and 57 Chinese. For Swatow—

From Penang—8 Chinese. For Shanghai—

From London—Messrs. E. Sart, E. H. Hawken,

and Choo Chiu Yam.

For Abay, str., from Taiwan, etc.—Mr. and

Mrs. Tyndale, Mr. Waters, S. European and 82

Chinese, deck.

TO DEPART.

Per mail steamer *Ansonia*.—From Hongkong.

For Penang—Captain Clarke. For Bombay—

Mr. G. T. MacMahon. For Bridgford—Mr. H.

P. Gray. For London—Messrs. J. B. Mustard,

H. J. Wills, W. W. Hill, and Bellasis. For

Venice—Mr. K. D. Adams. For Plymouth—

Messrs. Geo. Wright, R. N., W. H. Addisott,

Geo. Doran, Chas. Gardner, J. Hardinge, and

Chas. Bird, F. F. Roper, and

Mr. E. T. T. For London—Misses. Mrs. Win-

ton and child. For London—Lieut. C. G. Ro-

binson, B.M., and Mr. J. Johnson, R.N.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Hongkong* reports left

Chinkiang on the 4th June, and had fine weather

and moderate N.E. winds throughout the passage of 82 hours.

The British steamer *Albion* reports left Tai-

wanfo 2nd, Taman June 2nd, Amoy 6th,

and Swatow 7th. From Taiwanfo to Tamsui had light N.E. winds fine and smooth. From

Tamsui to Amoy had light S.S.W. to W.S.W.

smooth and fine. From Amoy to Swatow had

light S.E. to E.N.E. with rain. From Swatow

to Hongkong light variable and heavy latter

partly cloudy. At 10.30 P.M. the *Albion* was

at Lantau. Norden, Adenots, Micronesia,

Wentow, Thafow, Foochow, Ching-tien,

Chinkiang, China, and 5 children.

VESSELS ARRIVED IN EUROPE FROM PORTS

IN CHINA, JAPAN, AND MANILA.

(For last Mail's Advice).

Alma.....Nautila.....April 22

Bellrophon.....Shanghai.....April 23

VESSELS EXPECTED AT HONGKONG
(Corrected to Date).

AYDOR FOREST, Hamburg, Dec. 24

Basse, Wexford, Jan. 7

Lica, Cardiff, Jan. 14

Noro, Liverpool, Jan. 20

Cardiff, Jan. 19

Lanarkshire, Peurich, Jan. 27

Geo. Watson, Sanderson, Jan. 28

Berrol, Greenock, Jan. 29

P. Simon, Cardiff, Feb. 5

Barcelona, Liverpool, Feb. 12

P. J. Carlton, Cardiff, Feb. 15

C. & J. Parker, Cardiff, Feb. 21

London-Castle, Cardiff, Feb. 24

Douglas Castle, Cardiff, Mar. 5

Eldel Chair, Sanderson, Mar. 5

Patrician, London, Mar. 11

Felix, Cardiff, Mar. 12

Espana, Liverpool, Mar. 14

W. S. Thayer, Cardiff, Mar. 15

India, London, Mar. 16

C. & J. Parker, London, Mar. 25

London-Castle, Belfast, Mar. 30

Conqueror, Greenock, Mar. 31

Leander, London, Mar. 31

Dreadnaught, Penrhyn, Apr. 20

Rosina, London, Apr. 20

Rockhurst, Penrhyn, Apr. 22

Neurath, Penrhyn, Apr. 23

Autonr (s), Liverpool, Apr. 23

Marina, London, Apr. 25

FOR SALE: JUST RECEIVED.

REAL SCHIEDAMSCHEN JENEWE, Prime Quality Goods, Bottles, Tins, &c.

T. W. NELSON'S AROMATIC HOLANDS TONIC, FOMBRANZEN BITTERS.

BRECH LOADING GUNS, RIFLES, REVOLVERS, CARTRIDGES AND SHOTS.

J. F. SCHEFFER.

THE FIRST FLOOR, West side, of "MAGINE HOUSE," No. 15, Queen's Road, now in the occupation of Messrs. Wilson & Bird.

Apply to E. C. G. SUMPHROY.

FURNITURE WAREHOUSE, Nos. 9, 11, 12, 13, and 14.

BEAUFORT'S ARCADE, Opposite the City Hall.

HOUSES OF TRADE, FURNISHED THROUGHOUT ON SUBSIDIES, NOTWITHSTANDING FURNITURE, PIANOS, &c.

FOR SALE: A GOOD SELECTION OF BOOKS.

Some Choice Original Oil Paintings and Water Colours: Chromo Engravings, &c.

A few Pieces of Genuine Old Porcelain and other Ware.

CHINESE AND JAPANESE CURIOS.

Hongkong, 14th March, 1882.

FOR SALE.

(With Possession on the 1st May.)

THE NEW FAMILY RESIDENCE situated

next to Exmoor on Robin Hood Head, replete with every convenience, Tennis, Lawn Stabling &c.

Also.

SILVER MUSSEAU VIN DE CHAM-

PAGNE in cases of 3 doz. Pints and 1 doz.

Quarts.

GEO. R. STEVENS & Co.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1882.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of their Goods by Messrs. KYNOCH & Co., of WITTON, near BIRMINGHAM.

MEYER & Co.

Hongkong, 15th August, 1881.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

M. A. L. L. T. & Co., Agents for

PLUMBERS, GASFIRES, &c., &c.

have REMOVED their Office and Works to No. 6, "BEACONSFIELD ARCADE," where Orders for Fittings and Repairs will be punctually attended to.

For particulars, apply to

J. M. ARMSTRONG.

Amherst, Queen's Road.

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NOTICE.

NOW ON SALE.

THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY
FOR
CHINA, JAPAN, THE PHILIPPINES, SEATELLS,
SETTLEMENTS, COchin CHINA, Siam, &c.
FOR 1882.With which is incorporated
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY,

which is now in its

TWENTIETH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.
has been considerably extended, both in the
Directory proper and in the Appendix. The
ports of CHUNGKING, WADAWOSSOK, MA-
LAOCA, and PENANG have been added to the
former; whilst the latter includes the NEW
ORDER IN COUNCIL for the Government of
British Subjects in China and Japan, the Amend-
ed TREATY between RUSSIA and CHINA, the
NEW TREATIES between the UNITED STATES
and CHINA, the NEW TREATY between GERMANY
and CHINA, a translation of the TREATY
between SPAIN and ANAM signed in 1880 &c.
The ALPHABETICAL LIST of FOREIGN
RESIDENTS has been increased by upwards of
1,100 names, and gives reference to over 2,000
NEW RESIDENTS.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY

is embellished with the following Lithographed

MAPS and PLANS:

CODE of SIGNALS in USE at VICTORIA PEAK.

MAP of the ISLAND of HONGKONG.

PLAN of the CITY of VICTORIA.

MAP of the COAST of CHINA.

PLAN of the CITY of CANTON.

PLAN of the FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS AT
SHANGHAI.

PLAN of YOKOHAMA.

MAP of the TOWN and ENVIRONS of
SINGAPORE.

The large Edition contains ONE THOUSAND

pages of printed matter. It is indispensable
in every Merchant's Office in the Far East and
will be a useful guide to those travelling
either on business or pleasure.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY,
is published in Two Volumes—Complete at \$5, or
with the List of Residents, Port Descriptions
and Directories, Plan of Victoria, Code of Sig-
nals, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily
Press Office, where it is published, or to the
following Agents:

MACAO.....Messrs. A. A. de Mello & Co.

SWATOW.....Messrs. Campbell & Co.

AMOY.....Messrs. Wilson, Nickolls & Co.

FORMOSA.....Messrs. Wilson, Nichols & Co.

FOOKOWA.....Messrs. Hoyle & Co.

NANKIN.....Messrs. Hall & Holtz.

SHANGHAI.....Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

NORTHERN JAPAN.....Messrs. Hall & Holtz & Kelly

& Walsh, Shanghai.

NAGASAKI.....The C. and J. Trading Co.

HIKO OSAKA.....The C. and J. Trading Co.

YOKOHAMA.....Japan Gazette Office.

MANILA.....Messrs. Viuda Loayaga & Co.

SAIGON.....Mr. Crockett.

BANGKOK.....Messrs. Campbell & Co.

LONDON.....Mr. E. Algar, Clement's Lane.

LONDON.....Messrs. Bates, Head & Co.

LONDON.....Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21, Merchants'

SANFRANCISCO.....Mr. P. F. Fisher, 21, Merchants'

Exchange.

NEW YORK.....Messrs. S. M. Pittling & Co.

37, Park Row.

Daily Press Office, 8th February, 1882.

NOTICE.

A. S. WATSON AND CO.,
FAMILY & DISPENSING
CHEMISTS.By Appointment to His Excellency the
Viceroy and His Royal Highnesses the
DUKE OF EDINBURGH,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRUGGISTS,
PHARMACEUTISTS.PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS
DRUGGISTS' SUPPLYMEN,
And
AERATED WATER MAKERS.SHIPS' MEDICINE CHESTS REFITTED,
PASSENGER SHIPS SUPPLIED.NOTICE.—To avoid delay in the execution of
Orders it is particularly requested that all
business communications be addressed to the
Firm, A. S. WATSON and Co.,
HONGKONG, DISPENSARY. [22]

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be
addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The
Manager," and not to individuals by name.Correspondents are requested to forward their name
and address with communications addressed to the
Editor, not for publication, but as evidence, of good
faith.Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not
ordered for a fixed period will be continued until
countermanded.This is how Mr. Labouchere discourses in Truth
on the reply of the Under-Secretary of State for
the Colonies to the question of the Chinese slave
trade in Hongkong.The performance of the "Merchant of Venice" at
the Theatre Royal.

HONGKONG, JUNE 9TH, 1882.

Or all Eastern countries, remarks a Calcutta
paper, "Siam seems to be most alive to the
necessity of moving with the age." We cer-
tainly had some doubts on this head, born
of recent experience, in connection with the
Postal and Telegraph systems undertaken
some time ago, but which seem destined to be
referred to the Greek Kalends or some equally
uncertain period. Our Indian contemporary
is of a more sanguine and believing disposition,
for it says—"A scheme to connect the
districts of Mergui with Bangkok by a railway
or tramway has received the approval of the
Siamese Government. The accomplish-
ment of this scheme would shorten the
route between Calcutta and Hongkong by
several days, and would doubtless be taken
advantage of for mails and passengers, al-
though the necessity for breaking bulk
would prevent its being used for through
goods. There would, it is believed, be a
considerable local traffic, which would form
the mainstay of the line. So far as Siam
is concerned, this would practically solve
the problem of the Kraw Canal, and it is
considered that the successful working of
the line would do more towards foating
the Isthmus scheme than any amount of
writing or talking. An interchange of
commodities would speedily take place be-
tween Burmah and Siam, which would in
turn lead to an extension of the line north-
wards to Rangoon." There is no doubt that
the railway proposed would be perfectly practicable, will perhaps some day be made, and
would have some of the results ascribed
to it by our Calcutta contemporary. Miss Louisa

vines anyone that a sea trip from Hongkong to Bangkok, from thence by rail to Rangoon, and on by steamer from that port to the City of Palaces would save time in the journey to Calcutta. Whether it will pay under present circumstances to even make the connecting railway from Bangkok to Rangoon is open to question. Whilst there are many travellers who would like the breaks in the journey which the route via Bangkok and Burmah would afford, a good proportion would by choice go by the direct route and avoid the trouble attendant upon changing. Of course a good traffic would soon spring up between Burmah and Siam, by the railway, but what dimensions this might attain we are not in a position to judge. Nevertheless the scheme has advantages enough to recommend itself to the attention both of the Siamese and British Burmah Governments. It is a much more reasonable and altogether more feasible project than the much vaunted Kraw Canal scheme, which, if made, would never return any adequate interest on the capital. While, however, the proposed railway is an undertaking that might suitably engage the interest and attention of the Siamese Government, we sadly fear there is little likelihood of its ever being completed if its construction depends upon them. They are too fond of taking up new fancies and dropping them again to support and carry through a great work like this. No mention of such an enterprise has ever been made by our correspondent, and the Bangkok paper has also been silent on the subject. Is it not possible that the Calcutta paper has been misinformed or that the news is premature?

The delivery of the English mail was begun at 10.15 last night, and by a few minutes after 10 o'clock was haulled in to the wharf. Mr. Burrows, the Company's pilot, meting the vessel well outside and safely bringing her in.

Taking in 1,800 cases, she arrived at 11.45 hours, having been brought in at 9 o'clock. The Gelephant, Capt. Cox, hoisted the first flag to get away from Hawick, but left behind by the superior power of her rival, is expected here this evening.

The same paper in its issue of the 3rd ult. says "The Glenalmond arrived here last night, after a passage from Woosung of something less than

24 hours. Captain Hogg, of the Glenalmond, said, after proceeding 35 miles or so, got into

roughly dense fog, and, after getting lost, took a long cut-back to round the Shetland Islands, and the way took weather as far down as Hongkong, whence had fair weather to port, arriving setting in N.E. by E. 15 miles. Slowed down at 8.15 last night, and by a few minutes after 10 o'clock was haulled in to the wharf. Mr. Burrows, the Company's pilot, meeting the vessel well outside and safely bringing her in.

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down the principle that the parent was entitled to the support and aid of his children. There could be no doubt that slavery did exist in Hongkong, although it was prohibited by English law. He trusted that the inquiry which was going to be held by Lord Kimberley in the matter would be made by impartial persons. He attached considerable importance to that statement, because there were some indications that we were not as vigorous in our efforts against slavery as we formerly were. (Hear.)

Mr. Courtney thought it would be admitted that it had always been the desire of recent Governments to use their influence to prevent, not only slavery, but everything apposite to it. The hon. member for Northampton did not appear to think that that opinion did not apply to the case of that opinion. He had introduced a censure against the Government, which seemed to have no foundation whatever. He must point out to the House that the hon. member had brought an extraordinary accusation against the Government. He said that he was credibly informed that slavery existed in Laos. But he had not deemed it necessary to add a single fact or circumstance in support of that statement. It was possible that the hon. member had not even heard of such a place as that? He should have thought that it would have been the duty of the hon. member, before bringing such a charge, to make inquiry as to its correctness. (Hear, hear.) It was the belief of the Government that slavery had ceased to exist, not only in Laos but in all the other places to which the hon. member referred. Every attempt to give effect to that belief had been made by all recent Governments. The hon. member complained that there were no papers on the subject—but several papers were published in reference to the West Coast of Africa in 1875, and many others dealing with other places had also been published from time to time. The hon. member surely could not require that papers on such a subject should be issued year by year, when no fresh case of any kind had been brought forward. There was no record of slaves in the Malay States, however, some correspondence with the Governor of that district was in existence, and would be shortly laid before the House. The hon. member for Northampton said he was going to rest his observations upon a substantial foundation—upon the remarks of Chief Justice Small, and not upon the statement of any newspaper correspondent. He thought the hon. member ought to know the name of the newspaper he relied upon. (Hear, hear.) The hon. member seemed to speak somewhat slightly of them. The fact was the hon. member used the word "slavery" with some degree of looseness. His remarks chiefly referred to Hongkong, and to the slavery in existence there. But, as a fact, the state of things in Hongkong, though, no doubt, deplorable, did not amount to slavery. Slavery he deemed to be a condition of life—in which one person owned another. The hon. member appeared to work for and fulfil the will of another in such a way that the subjected person could not escape, which condition, also, is the law of the country enforced. He defined slavery and so-called slavery as nothing of the kind existing in Hongkong, because in that city the English law prevailed. The hon. member for Northampton considered the whole strength of his position lies in the fact that the people were bound to work for the benefit of their proprietors. Now, there were special laws in Hongkong affecting purchases and sales for that purpose. It was enacted in 1855 that the sale or purchase of a woman or child for the purpose of prostitution, or the harbouring of any woman or child for that purpose, should be a misdemeanour. Every person, therefore, who affected to buy or sell or to hold out that any woman or child had been bought or sold for that purpose, was liable to a penalty of a misdemeanour. There was a vast number of people who were bought and sold for other purposes, and such sales constituted no offence. It was so in England. They all knew of the common accusation of husbands selling their wives in Smithfield, and how the practice was not unknown even at the present day. The transaction, however, was a pure nullity. That was the state of facts as at present existed in Hongkong, and perhaps it would be well to take into account the state of dependency, state of society, but when they remembered the situation of Hongkong, placed in the centre of a teeming population that could with difficulty obtain a livelihood, they could not be surprised at it. In quoting the position of the Chinese inhabitants of Hongkong, with the view of showing how rotten public opinion there was, the hon. member for Northampton omitted the part of the speech in which the Chinese were accused of being a race of people who were the tools and chattels of few people for the purposes of prostitution, and played that kidnapping and selling for such purposes should be severely punished. If the hon. member had quoted this passage he would have answered this part of his case, for the Chinese were most eager in their desire to help the Government in crushing the evils which they admitted to exist, and to assist in the full and early extinction of the practice of buying and selling children for the purposes of adoption and friendship; but he would point out that none who were so adopted could be held in servitude against their will, that they could escape, that they could apply to the Courts, and that anyone could apply on their behalf. The fact of their having been sold, Lord Kimberley had pointed out, did not deprive them of any rights. Unquestionably the position of the Chinese was such as to entitle them to be protected, and to be granted, and his noble friend had suggested for consideration whether the entering into agreements should be made a misdemeanour, whether specified conditions should be exacted, whether some combination of these provisions should be adopted, in order to prevent abuses. The action of the hon. member for Northampton would not prevent the Chinese from forming a society to arrest the growth of a servile class, a different one from the dominant class, conscious as they were of the dangers that were inseparable from such a condition of things.

Mr. Dillwyn could not help expressing his disappointment at the tone of the last speech, which was a half-hearted condemnation amounting almost to a defence of gross abuse. Whether there was legal slavery or not, and the practically slavery of the poor in form, and the more the actual condition of things was realized, the more the country and the country that the hon. member for Northampton deserved thanks for having called attention to it.

Mr. Cropper said that the Colonial Office had laid before the House the result of their investigations into that matter, and Lord Kimberley had expressed a desire that a full and trustworthy inquiry should be made into the conduct of the individuals concerned, and that it should be taken to the public that such conduct was to be brought to light. He had great confidence in Sir John Bowes and Sir John Smale, and he fully believed that what they would say was that in some way the system of colonial slavery, which it could not be denied existed to a certain extent at Hongkong, would be changed. The great evil of retaining girls in houses of ill repute at Hongkong, and the larger question of what could only be removed by a general effort to eradicate those diseases at Hongkong was thoroughly gone into. He was convinced that the feeling expressed in England some years ago on the subject of the slave cruiser had had a good effect, and that it was now a point of honour in the Navy that wherever the British flag was slavery was to be discouraged.

A Telegram from Vienna states that the Emperor and Empress of Austria will visit Trieste in the middle of May in order to open the exhibition there. It is thought probable that they will not pay any attention to the Slave Trade.

The same State Minister, by Percy Russell, The Illustrated Pamphlet on Perfumery, &c., published at £1, may be had gratis from any Chemist or dealer in perfumery in the World, or John Gould and Co., London. [Advt.] 162

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THURSDAY, 8th June.

EXPORT CARGO.

Per steamer *Anatolia*, for London—500 chests tea, 14,356 lbs. half-ripened tea, 12,615 lbs. tea, 295 lbs. tea, 55 lbs. dried fruit, 1,000 lbs. tobacco, 500 lbs. boxes silk goods, and 400 pieces cambric. For Continent—32 boxes raw silk and 43 pieces sundries.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—Bank Bills, on demand, £101. Bank Bills, for 30 days' sight, £101. Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight, £101. Documentary Bills, at 4 months' sight, £101.

ON PARIS.—Bank Bills, on demand, £.82.

Credits, at 4 months' sight, £.80.

ON BOMBAY.—Bank, 3 days' sight, £22.

ON CALCUTTA.—Bank, 3 days' sight, £22.

ON SHANGHAI.—Bank, sight, £.78.

Private, 60 days' sight, £.78.

SHARES.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—£118 per cent premium.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—£1,325 per share ex dividend.

Taiwan Insurance Company's Shares—£1,350 per share.

China Insurance Company—£250 per share.

On Tai Insurance Company, Limited—The 142 per share.

Canton Insurance Office, Limited—£80 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—no share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—£290 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—52 per cent premium.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamship Co.—Shares—22 per cent premium.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Co.'s Shares—no share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—£82 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—£1,024 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company, Limited—£170 per share.

China Sugar Refining Company (Debtors)—3 per cent premium.

Liau Sugar Refining Company, Limited—£120 per share.

Hongkong and China Bakery Company, Limited—£60 per share.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1874—£109 Nominal.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1877—£107 Nominal.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1878—2 per cent premium.

Chinese Imperial Loan of 1881—22 per cent premium.

HONGKONG TEMPERATURE.

FROM MESSRS. FALCONER & CO., HANOVER.

June 8th.

Barometer—94.0 M.

EXTRACTS.

SUMMER.
By JOHN ADDINGTON STRACHEY.
O sweet and strange, what this gay-morning steals
Over the misty hills, and gently stirs
Bed-linen times and pampas robes;
To brush the down-bouquetted goose-weave,
From meadow-grass and beneath black fir,
In limpid streamslets, or translucent lakes;
To bathe and dive horned-hummed brakers!
O sweet and sumptuous at height of noon,
Languid to lie on scented summer lawns.
Form'd by first brooks of the breathless June;
To watch the timorous and trooping flocks,
Dappled like tendered clouds in early dew,
From their ferny covert glades to drink
And cool the limbs beside the river brink!
O strange and sad ere day-light disappears,
To hear the croaking of the homeward wain,
Drawn by the team of tarty-pacing steers,
Neath honey-suckle hedge and tangled lane;
To breathe faint scents of roses, the wane
By cottage door, and watch the mellowing sky
Fade into sixteen hues incendiary.

AN EXTRAORDINARY FISH.

There is now on exhibition in Bombay a remarkable fish, which, according to the exhibitors, is a distinct proof of the existence of the mermaid, a being hitherto believed to be only a myth invented by the imaginative mind of some individual who wished to give a poetic character to the inhabitants of the deep. The animal to which we are referring was brought to Bombay from Aden a few days since in one of the Rubattino steamers by two Turks, who allege that they caught the creature alive on the coast of the Red Sea, near Jeddah. It had got into shallow water, and with some little difficulty they secured it, and took it to Aden where it was putridly exhibited for some time. A railway accident, a runaway horse, a run to catch a train, a fall in the ice, or even a fit of coughing, may bring a life of misery or an early death to one who would have passed unnoticed through all them had he allowed his nerves and muscles to wear away in vigorous activity, instead of carefully preserving them, like smoked bacon, the fumes of tobacco knowledge.

A WONDERFUL TELEPHONE.
A very remarkable improvement in the telephone, by means of which vocal messages can be transmitted over the wires thousands, instead of tens and hundreds of miles, as heretofore, is reported to have been recently demonstrated in Boston, where the main office of the Bell Telephone Company is situated. The report has created some commotion among electricians in this city, as it seems to open, if verified in all its details, a future for the speaking telephone no second to that of the telegraph itself, indicating indeed, in the opinion of most, something that the vocal transmission will ultimately supersede the written message for many practical purposes. It appears that Mr. C. E. Chinook, who is employed by the Metropolitan Telephone Company, of this city, in the capacity of electrician had occasion, a couple of weeks ago, to pay a visit to Boston in order to confer with the Bell Telephone Company. While there he was shown by Mr. Jacques, the electrician of that company, the workings of an invention by the use of which parties as distant from each other as New York and Boston can converse with each other intelligibly and rapidly. It is stated that the only alterations required in the construction of the telephone as now in use in this city consist in the substitution of batteries of four cells each for those once employed for telephoning in the present state of the science, and in the substitution of carbons treated in a particular manner which is kept secret yet in place of the simple carbon vibrating surface, with which even the ordinary observer is familiar.—New York Times, April 6th.

NATURE'S MURDERERS.
A correspondent writes to the *St. James's Gazette*:—“In Professor Newman's letter to the newspapers, he says that ‘If we give up the cruelty of mangling birds with the gun and leave the little hawks to kill them with divine dexterity, they will remain as numerous as now.’ Surely imagination is at work here more tenderly than keenly. Anyone who has spent quiet days on the lonely moors must have seen a sparrow-kite chasing a lark. We cannot tell what the lark's private opinions may be, but to all outward appearance it never appreciates ‘divine dexterity.’ The chase often lasts from twenty minutes to half an hour. Sometimes the lark gets clean away; sometimes it takes refuge at the feet of a man, or in some friendly cottage; but more often the poor creature's flight grows feeble, and the savage raven stoops and brings it down. When the captive or captor reach the ground the divine dexterity makes it manifest in a most butchery process of tearing rending. Partridges and grouse, which are pursued by the larger hawks, seem also to suffer terrible agony during their flight. In fact, from all observation, I incline to believe that, if the birds could be got to deliver an impartial opinion, they would declare in favor of the swift oblivion given by the gun rather than in favour of the long terror of flight, and the cruel rending of beak and talons.” Professor Newman may have means of accurately gauging ornithological opinion; but we, the most part of us, can only form judgments from common observation. Those who favour the profession's view of Nature's operations should try to spend one long day in some wild place. They would find that day a circle of murder. Supposing that the placid by the sea, lie down first of all by the side of some deep break in the rocks and watch what goes on as the tide flows in. The goly birds behind the waving weeds and dash out now and again on his prey; the dog-eat-sides along and watch his chances; the black cold winds sinuously about, with his villainous eye and his snaky coils making him look like the very genius of murder. By the time the gap is completely filled the observer sees one great battle of species against species; and he knows that the same fight is going on in every bay down the coast. Inland, the same kind of wild war may be seen by dexterous watching. A rabbit stumbles hopelessly among the tufts. It seems dazed and forlorn. A few yards behind comes a tiny brown creature, with its breast and viscous little teeth; and the poor rabbit knows that there is no escape from this deadly pursuer. Unless you care to deliver the rabbit from divine dexterity, you will see how Nature's butchers work. The chased beast begins to run in halting circles; then it stops and screams; then there is a brown flash, and the weasel is fixed like an ugly parasite behind the poor victim's ear; then there is silence. Half an hour after you will see the rabbit abandoned with a gaping wound in its neck. If your tortoise accompanies you, then the rabbit is saved, and the weasel becomes the murderer. By the time the gap is completely filled the observer sees one great battle of species against species; and he knows that the same fight is going on in every bay down the coast. Inland, the same kind of wild war may be seen by dexterous watching. A rabbit stumbles hopelessly among the tufts. It seems dazed and forlorn. A few yards behind comes a tiny brown creature, with its breast and viscous little teeth; and the poor rabbit knows that there is no escape from this deadly pursuer. Unless you care to deliver the rabbit from divine dexterity, you will see how Nature's butchers work. 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